

**WISANGGENT'S AMBITION IN AYU UTAMI'S *SAMAN*  
NOVEL (1998): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement  
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education in English Department**

**by:**

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**APPROVAL**

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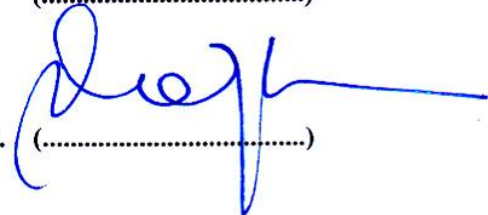
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**SUCIATI MUFTI LESTARI. A320130137. WISANGGENI'S AMBITION ON AYU UTAMI'S SAMAN (1998) NOVEL: PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH. MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA. 2018.**

**ABSTRACT**

The objectives of the research is to analyze Wisanggeni's personality based on psychoanalytic approach and to reveal Wisanggeni's ambition in Ayu Utami's SAMAN Novel (1998). The analysis was done by examining Wisanggeni's personality, which is divided into three parts, Id, Ego and Superego. Besides, the analysis followed by Wisanggeni's ambition which is presented in every event of the novel. Using descriptive qualitative analysis, the primary data of the research was in form of information that was obtained from SAMAN Novel (1998). In addition, the secondary data were obtained from books, journals, articles, and online sources. Both primary and secondary data were collected by intensive readings, identification, and notes. They were analyzed by understanding the data, focus on the analysis, categorizing the data, identifying patterns and interpretation. Based on the research findings, the conclusions that can be drawn are first, Wisanggeni's personality of Id, Ego and Superego were influenced by his social condition that confronted many difficult condition so that he could not fulfill his needs. Second, because of his condition, he have big ambition to get better condition for his life, society and environment.

**Keywords:** ambition, personality, psychoanalytic approach.

**ABSTRAK**

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis kepribadian Wisanggeni berdasarkan pendekatan psikoanalisis dan mengungkap ambisi Wisanggeni dalam novel SAMAN karya Ayu Utami (1998). Analisis dilakukan dengan memeriksa kepribadian Wisanggeni, yang terbagi menjadi tiga bagian, Id, Ego dan Superego. Selain itu, analisis dilanjutkan dengan ambisi Wisanggeni yang dipresentasikan di setiap acara novel tersebut. Dengan menggunakan analisis kualitatif deskriptif, data primer penelitian ini berupa informasi yang diperoleh dari SAMAN Novel (1998). Selain itu, data sekunder diperoleh dari buku, jurnal, artikel, dan sumber online. Baik data primer dan sekunder dikumpulkan dengan membaca intensif, mengidentifikasi, dan mencatat. Data tersebut dianalisis dengan memahami data, fokus pada analisis, mengkategorikan data, mengidentifikasi pola dan menginterpretasi. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian, kesimpulan pertama yang dapat ditarik adalah kepribadian Id, Ego dan Superego Wisanggeni dipengaruhi oleh kondisi sosialnya yang menghadapi banyak kondisi sulit sehingga ia tidak dapat memenuhi kebutuhannya. Kedua, karena kondisi ini, ia memiliki ambisi yang besar untuk mendapatkan kehidupan, masyarakat dan lingkungannya yang lebih baik.

**Kata Kunci :** ambisi, kepribadian, pendekatan psikoanalitik.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Reality sometimes differ with people`s want. People`s life is a collection of events, and sometimes, facing hard reality beyond the expectation. Therefore, in making and executing a plan, people needs big desire becaue problems or obstacle may come anytime. Big desire funtions to recharge people spirit when they have problem or limitation. The desire brings extra energy to solve and pass the limitation. Somethimes people must have big desire in the attainment process that combined with the willingness to strive for the accomplishment, can be said as ambition.

According to Burrton, Nell in Philosophy (2014) Ambition derives from the Latin *ambitio*, which means a going around and, by extension a striving for honour, recognition, and preferment. Ambition can be defined as a striving for some kind of achievement or distinction. It involves, first, the desire for attainment, and, second, the motivation and determination to strive for its accomplishment even in the face of failure and adversity.

Ambition is people`s desire to get what they need. It arise from people themselves. Ambition can be positive and negative. Positive ambition means the people want to get or achieve something beneficial for them by doing right. For example people want to be success by studying and hard working. On the other hand, negative ambition rise when people want to achieve the goal by doing bad or harm. For example stealing or robbing to get some money. Therefore, people must have good purpose and right way in realizing their ambition.

Ayu Utami`s SAMAN Novel (1998) is a very popular novel. This novel revealed many controvercies on that era. They were social issues, environmental issues, and the character`s self issues. First, the social issues were sexual taboo, women`s oppression, villager`s colonialization, etc. Second, the environmental issues were plantation problem and land exploration. Third, self issues of the characters, anxiety, abusing, self ambition, defense mechanism, love affairs, etc.

One of the issue that make the writer interseting is self ambition. The novel told the story of a young man name Athanasius Wissanggeni. He usally called as Wis. Wissanggeni is a brave man. He has very high social dedication. In Wisanggeni`s self, exists a strange power that can help him at emergency time, this was happened several times, and the last one was when he tried to escape from the raging fire that burn the place where he jailed in. There were many things was faced, most concerning of how the grinds of higher level people in money measure that assume as subordinate people. He dedicated himself totally to the society. Opposing the rebellions to burn the plantation and plunder the citizen`s land.

In the begining of the journey, Wisanggeni was a priest that assigned to rural place named Lubuk Rantau. In the place, there were many social problems of the villagers and colonizer. The colony want to seize villager`s plantation lands. And plant them with a specific comodity that only beneficial for them. Some villages were forced to cultivate the land without any compesation. They did not get sallary, food, health insurance. Even some of the villager`s land were taken over. Wis assisted the low economics society in plantation of rubber area.

In the assigned place, Wis was assigned to teach religios principle to the villagers. Then, he found some innapropriate condition. His heart was touched emotionally to fight the colony for the villager`s right. In his effort, he got some confrontation from the apparatus. Although everything that he had done for the villagers had been destroyed, he kept continou his work. He struggled for the villager`s land, built an electrical generator, looked for donation, planted day and night, etc. At the last he was accused as the villager`s provocator and jailed. In the jail, he got some maltreatment every day for several months. The condition made him disbelieve with his religion and the presence of God because no help came to him. There were still many things that can be learn from Wisanggeni`s ambition. Therefore the writer interesten in analyzing the issue.

There are reasons why the writer interested in studying this novel. First, the novel is controversial. It revealed taboo phenomena that forbided to be expossed by the goverment and colony at that era. However, the novel had been successfully expossed the condition to other countries among other media that were banned. In addition, the novel was very famous in other countries because it had been translated into other foreign languages by foreign translators.

Second, the novel become the witness of historical phenomena that truly happend in Indonesia at that era. At that time, reformation happend. There were chaos everywhere. There were some social, political problems, criminal, etc. This novel tell the condition at that time. Third, the novel has some interesting issues, they are love and friendship, social problems, politcal problems, oppressions, sexual abuse, etc. They were described and combined in cronologically.

Forth, the writer of the novel, Ayu Utami portrayed the condition and characteristic of the story successfully. Thus made the story alive. It was due to the diction or words selected to portray the characters, setting, theme and situation that appropriate to the story. This is why the writer amazed of the bravery of Utami to present the novel.

Fifth, the story of the main character of the novel makes the writer curious. A condition where the main character, Athanasius Wisanggeni or Saman, the bravery and full dedcated man, struggled for himself, his believe, family, love and society. He were tortured in struggling the citizen`s right. However, he contiued the struggle until he was jailed and amost die. He wont be such a brave and strong man who fight for others if he did not have strong willingnes and ambition. His ambition make the writer courious, so that it the writr anlyzed it. In this research, psychoanalytic approach will be used to analyze the issue of ambition. This approach is considered as the appropriate approach to be used because it is used to analyzed human`s behavior and personality. Reffered to the background and resons, the writer proposes the



following research title: **Wisanggeni`s Ambition in Ayu Utami`s *SAMAN* (1998) Novel: a Psychoanalytic Approach.**

## **2. METHOD**

### **2.1 Type Of The Study**

This research is a descriptive qualitative research. Its purpose is to make analysis data in form of words and information.

### **2.2 Object Of The Study**

The object of the study in the research is Wisanggeni`s ambition that reflected on *SAMAN* (1998) novel written by Ayu Utami. This research focuses on Wisanggeni`s ambition as the main issue of the research.

### **2.3 Type Of Data And Data Source**

#### **2.3.1 Primary data sources**

The primary data sources in this research is Ayu Utami`s *SAMAN* (1998) novel that written in English and Indonesian version.

#### **2.3.2 Secondary data sources**

The secondary data of this research was collected from books, internet, online journals, note, dictionary, and others that related to the study.

### **2.4 The Technique of Data Collection**

The techniques for data collection are intensive reading, searching for secondary data, identification, hand writing and giving description.

### **2.5 Technique Of Data Analysis**

The technique of data analysis are understanding the data, focus the analysis, categorize Information, identify patterns and connections, and interpretation

### **2.6 Data Validity**

The writer used the Indonesian and English to check confirm the issue to the origin version. Besides, the writer uses the theory of psychoanalytical from many experts. To get valid literature, the writer compares many literature reviews from many researchers.

### **3. FINDINGS**

#### **3.1 Wisanggeni`s Personality Based on Psychoanalytic Approach**

The first finding of the research is Wisanggeni`s personality. To analyze the issue, the writer used psychoanalytic approach. According to Freud (in Burger, 1986: 56) there are three levels of personality, namely Id, Ego and Superego.

Wisanggeni`s Id was rarely to be fulfilled, especially when he was in Lubukrantau, the remote area where he was assigned. Because of the location was remote, the facilities are very limited. Besides, he also did not feel safe. He often threatened by the private company. He was jailed and got some maltreatment. In addition, he did not get proper food when jailed. His need of food and safety was not completed.

Wis ego was mostly opposed by external factor. He almost never get something that made him satisfied to his id. Wis was a humanity person. He loved to help people. But, he was doubt when his Id was opposed by the reality and environment where he stayed. That condition arouse his ego. By ego, he got bigger motivation to do more valuable thing.

Wis superego omits his desire to release the land dispute. He was worried about the villager`s condition. The possibility that might come from the bigger oppression is more terror and great fear. Wis had to adapt his ego the the environment`s and the society`s condition. Meanwhile it was hard for him to do so.

#### **3.2 Wisanggeni`s Ambition**

Wisanggeni`s first ambition for Id was memorizing his childhood. His childhood was a period that he got full of love. He got his ambition to be assigned to Perabumulih. Perabumulih is his birth place. He proposed to Romo Uskup to be assigned there. Besides spreading the religious value to the villagers, Wis can manage the area which is almost covered by plantation, since he graduated in agriculture institute (Saman,

1998: 45). Wis wanted to remind his childhood memory with his parents, his little brother and sister that have not born yet. Wis the only child who still alive in his family.

Wis made time to visit his house at Perabumulih. It was rebuilt but the rooms inside were still at the first position. He remind every room and missed his father and mother. He switched the lamp and sit in the corner of the room where his father`s desk used to sit and which was now occupied by a chair and telephone table. He was silent and began to remember his house and it atmosphere thoroughly.

Wis ambition to achieve his ego was his feeling to Upi. The backwardness girl made him felt pity on her. He had strong ambition to make the girl get better life. His ambition was arouse when he gathered with Upi`s family talking about Upi. Wis kept silent listening the family`s explanation of the girl. He hardly believe such a bad condition to the girl. “Wis could hardly believe this, but he did not give up. ....” (Saman, 1998: 71). From the above description and quote, it can be inferred that Wis had strong ambition to improve the condition in Perabumulih, especially Upi`s condition. He hardly believe the hard condition that faced by Upi. He had strong willingness to repaired Upi`s cage. He wanted to rebuilt the cage. He set the target for himself that described in the below quote.

“For that reason, Wis badly wanted Upi to get her new home before the rainy season began in earnest.” (Saman, 1998: 74)

The reason was that leaves begin to bud, a sign of recent regular rain that usually began after three in the afternoon. Therefore, he had to finish the cage before the rainy season come. The proof of Wis strong ambition was described on his condition in preparing Upi`s cage. His hard work was because of his ambition to Upi. “Wis worked with a

perpetual grimace on his face as he tried to endure the pain while Upi observed him from her smelly cage” (Saman, 1998: 74-75). He restrain his ego for feeling comfort and enjoy with the society only for building Upi`s house.

Related to Wis condition, he was born from well economic and educated family. Related to his psychological condition, he has high social spirit. He loves help others. On very critical condition, he had strong ambition to finish his project in Lubukrantau. He asked his father for money to help mission in Lubukrantau.

“This time, it wasn`t just to send news and his love, as usual, but also to ask for money, for about five to six million rupiah, hardly a big amount for his father.” (Saman, 1998: 81)

Referring to the above quote, Wis usually send letter to his father. At that time, he had intention to ask money from his father. It was due to his ambition to improve condition in Lubukrantau. Wis has educated and well economic parents. Related to the above theory, Wis became an ambitious man. Especially when he had strong ambition to fulfill his need. It can be said that Wis ambition was come from his father`s condition.

Wis ambition getting stronger when the condition in Lubukrantau getting worse. There were many chaoses. He had built many places for the village prosperity. On the other hand, it had been destroyed by the private company. He found that there were no fast solution for the problem. Because of that, his ambition getting stronger to continue his project. He did much effort to gain public interest.

“Wis went to Palembang, Lampung and Jakarta, taking with him photographs of the village and a detailed report of the progress being made there. He visited newspaper offices and non-government organizations.... he talked passionately and at lenght with everyone he met and gave them the report. He

urged them: if you possibly can, come and see our village for yourself. “ (Saman, 1998: 90)

From the above quote it can be inferred that Wis had very strong ambition. Although the fact always come far from his expectation, he still done many efforts to achieve his goal. If Wis did not have strong ambition, he would not have big desire. He thought that the society's live is more important than himself. He restrained his pleasure for other people. Thus, it can be inferred that Wis ambition had restraint his superego.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

The research focuses on Wisanggeni's ambition, as the major character in SAMAN (1998) Novel by Ayu Utami, the researcher used psychoanalytic approach to analyze the data of the research because the issues related to human's psychology. The social problem that related to the issue was a backwardness girl and villager's oppression because of land dispute. Wis sacrificed everything to make the backwardness girl get better life and improve villager's condition. In realizing those desire, Wis faced many hard conditions. In this case, he would not pass the condition if he did not have strong ambition.

The ambition is related to his personality. Theory of personality proposed by Freud had been taken to analyzese the issue. The points of personality that had been taken to the analysis are id, ego and superego. On the further discussion, the points are related to Wis ambition.

First conclusion is Wis personality. Wis id, ego and superego were not fulfilled thoroughly. Id is related to basic need fulfillment. They are food, love, safety, etc. His first ambition for Id was memorizing his childhood, a period when he got full of love. He got his ambition to be assigned to Perabumulih. He proposed to Romo Uskup to be assigned there. Besides spreading the religious value to the villagers, Wis can manage the area which is almost covered by plantation, since he graduated in agriculture institute (Saman, 1998: 45).

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